

REMARKS

A restriction requirement was the only point raised in the Office Action mailed on October 3, 2006. The Examiner requires restriction as follows: Group I, claims 1-11, 19 (process wherein a fuel containing organosulfur impurities is contacted with an organic hydroperoxide in the presence of an oxidation catalyst); and Group II, claims 12-18, 20 (process wherein a fuel containing organonitrogen and organosulfur impurities is extracted to remove organonitrogen impurities).

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-11, 19), with traverse. Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement for the following reasons.

The process claims of Group II (claims 12-18) incorporate the limitations of claim 1, and in fact steps (c)-(e) of claim 12 are a specific version of steps (a)-(c) of claim 1. Consequently, any search regarding claim 1 will also uncover any art that includes the additional steps [(a) and (b) of claim 12] required by the process claims of Group II. Therefore, it would not be unduly burdensome on Examiner to search for the inventions of both Group I and Group II. If the Examiner finds patentable subject matter in claim 1, Examiner should conclude that claims 12-18 are also patentable because these claims incorporate all of the limitations of claim 1. Moreover, if the claims of Group I are found patentable, the Examiner should rejoin the claims of Group II. Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement.

Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone their attorney at (610) 359-2465 if Examiner believes that a discussion of the application might be helpful.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 30, 2006.

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Respectfully submitted,

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